

# Welcome To



# Oxford

## Home of Dan Patch

**This booklet is presented to welcome you to Oxford and to provide you with some information you may find helpful in becoming a part of our community. We hope you and your family find Oxford a friendly and rewarding place to live.**

## Utilities

Electricity - Warren County R.E.M.C.	765-762-6114
Gas - Northern Indiana Public Service Co.	800-464-7726
Telephone - AT&T	800-288-2020
Water, Sewage, Garbage (Town Of Oxford) office	765-385-2150
Oxford Utility/Maintenance	765-385-2455 or 765-585-2551

### **View & Pay Your Bill Online**



Access your account at

[www.bentoncounty.in.gov/oxford](http://www.bentoncounty.in.gov/oxford)

No registration is required to view or pay your bill

Go Paperless! Sign up to receive your bills online



Service  
fees  
apply.

## **Communication Alerts – REACH Alert (877) 307-931**

Receive text message, voice call or an email

1. Go to [www.reachalert.com](http://www.reachalert.com) and click on MY ACCOUNT.
2. Select CREATE ACCOUNT.
3. Follow the prompts and enter your preferred contact information.
4. Network Name: type Oxford (click on our name when it appears).
5. Select Resident or Business.
6. Enter your address and click on it when it appears in the dropdown List. If you opted to receive text alerts; Reach Alert will send a message to your cell phone immediately upon completion of your registration. Please enter the 4-digit number on the registration card and then click the word VALIDATE. If you do not receive this message, please call Reach Alert.

## **Emergency Numbers**

Fire, Police, Ambulance	911
Benton County Sheriff – non-emergency	765-884-0080
Oxford Town Marshal Office	765-385-0123

## **Other Services**

Oxford Post Office	765-385-2159
Fowler License Branch	765-884-0585

## **Churches**

Church of Christ	765-385-2194
Oxford Federated	765-385-2863

## **History of Oxford**

The first settlers came to graze cattle on the lush prairie grasses. They built their houses among the groves of trees, to protect themselves from the harsh winter environment, just as the Indians had done. They named the area White Oak Grove. This was near the intersection of two major Indian trails. An old, oak tree still stands, just west of Crown Street, with its branches permanently bent, they say, by the Indians to point the direction of the trails.

In 1843 the settlers soon decided they needed to establish a county government. So, Benton County was formed, at Basil Justus' Tavern just south of St. Patrick's Catholic Church, on Michigan Rd. under some large oak trees, which still stand.

The first County Court House was constructed in the Town Square Park. When the need for restoration or rebuilding came, Moses Fowler led a successful drive to move the Court House to Fowler, Indiana, the geographic center of the county. Today Oxford has a lovely Park on the site where the first Court House stood.

Oxford is also known as the "Home of Dan Patch". Dan Patch was a world famous harness racing horse, whose 1906 record pace of 1:55, for the mile, stood for thirty two years. Dan Patch was so well known throughout America, that he was called the first "Sports Superstar"

Oxford has a great heritage. To learn more about our town's history, refer to the book entitled "Tales of a Prairie Town", by Howard C. Gillispie, at our library.

## **Water Utility**

We bill for Water, Wastewater, Sanitation and Storm water in arrears. Water bills are printed & mailed on the 15<sup>th</sup> of each month for the water used the prior month. The bills are always due the 5<sup>th</sup> of the following month.

Past Due notices are mailed to landlords on the 12<sup>th</sup> of the month.

**Disconnect tags are hung the Friday before the first Town Council meeting of the month. Town Council meetings are the 1st and 3rd Mondays of the month at 7:00pm at the Town Hall.**

**First Bill MAY 15<sup>TH</sup> (APRIL WATER) Due JUNE 5TH**

### **Recreation**

**Oxford has three parks. These are the Town Square, Old Academy Park, and Rommel Park. The Town Square is used for the weekly Farmer's Market and special community events, such as Memorial Day Services. Old Academy and Rommel Parks are popular for family reunions and summer sporting activities. Tennis and basketball courts as well as baseball fields are in abundant use throughout the summer. Reservations for use of the shelter houses in both parks may be made by contacting the Clerk's office at 765 385-2150.**

**Located on State Road 55 on the south edge of town, is an 18 hole golf course. It is open to the public.**

### **Education**

**Welcome to Benton Community School Corporation, featuring elementary and secondary schools fully accredited by the North Central Association. The corporate headquarters is located at 405 S. Grant Avenue in Fowler, Indiana. Benton Community School Corporation: 765 884-0850**

**Prairie Crossing Elementary School is located in Oxford, IN. It is one of 3 public elementary schools in Benton Community School Corporation School District. It serves students in grades K-6. Prairie Crossing Elementary: 765 884-3000**

**Junior / Senior High School – Oxford is served by Benton Central Junior – Senior High School. Benton Central Junior/Senior High: 765 884-1600**

### **Library**



**Oxford has a well maintained, fully inventoried, and professionally administered Library. Our Library is a Carnegie Library dedicated to service in 1917 and has been progressively fulfilling the educational and literary needs of our town ever since.**

### **Abandoned Vehicles**

**The Oxford Police will enforce Ordinance 2018-0702A relating to Abandoned Vehicles.**

**(1) Public Nuisance. Because of the danger to health from vermin and insects and because of the danger to the safety of children attracted by such vehicles, abandoned motor vehicles are declared to be a nuisance.**

**(2) Definition. Abandoned motor vehicles are any motor vehicles that are junked, wrecked, disassembled, mechanically inoperable, or not bearing a current license.**

**(3) Prohibited Storage. It shall be unlawful for any person owning or having custody of an abandoned motor vehicle to store or permit such vehicle to remain on public property within the Town of Oxford, Indiana for a period of more than three (3) days following receipt of a notice requiring a removal or on private property within the Town of Oxford, Indiana for a period of more than seven (7) days following receipt of a notice requiring removal.**

**(4) Permitted Storage. This section shall not apply to any motor vehicle stored within an enclosed building, or on the premises of a business enterprise operated in a lawful place and manner when necessary to the operation of such business enterprise, in a storage place or depository maintained in a lawful place and manner, or seasonal use vehicles such as snowmobiles, motorcycles, motor scooters, and non-motorized campers. Such business enterprises shall include auto junk yards, auto repair and auto body shops, but shall not include automobile service stations or tire, battery, and accessory sales stores.**

**(5) Notice of Removal.** Whenever the Oxford Town Marshal, or his authorized designee, finds any abandoned motor vehicle placed or stored upon public or private property within the Town of Oxford Indiana, he shall issue an order to the owner of such vehicle, if such owner can be ascertained by the exercise of reasonable diligence and also to the owner of the private property as shown on the tax assessment records of the county, to remove such vehicle: if it is situated on public property within three (3) consecutive days and if it is situated on private property within seven (7) consecutive days.

### **Golf Carts**

#### **OPERATION OF GOLF CARTS**

The operation of a golf cart within the Town of Oxford is strictly prohibited unless the golf cart is operated and equipped in full compliance of Ordinance 2011-2. Golf Cart registration forms are available from the Town Marshal or the Town Clerk's office. The fee to register a golf cart is \$10.00

#### **OPERATOR**

A golf cart may only be operated by an individual who holds a valid driver's license.

#### **FINANCIAL RESPONSIBILITY**

The financial ability of the operator or owner notwithstanding, the operator of a golf cart must be able to show proof of financial responsibility when operating a golf cart. Written proof of financial responsibility must be available on the golf cart or carried by the operator at all times.

#### **TIME OF OPERATION**

Golf carts shall not be operated on town streets during one-half hour after sunset to one-half hour before sunrise unless the golf cart is equipped with 2 operating headlights (1 on each side of the front of the golf cart) and 2 operating taillights with brake lights (1 on each side of the rear of the

**golf cart) which are visible from a distance of 500 feet, as well as at least 2 red reflectors visible from of one hundred (100) feet to six hundred (600) feet to the rear when illuminated by the upper beams of head lamps.**

### **PLACE OF OPERATION**

**Golf carts may be operated on town streets which have a posted speed limit of thirty (30) miles or less. Golf carts may not be operated on sidewalks. Golf carts may not be operated on the following national or state highways except to cross said highways at intersections in a path ninety (90) degrees to said highways: State Road 55 or State Road 352.**

### **OCCUPANTS**

**The number of occupants in a golf cart shall be limited to the number of persons for whom factory seating is installed and provided on the golf cart. The operator and all occupants shall be seated in the golf cart and no part of the body of the operator or occupant shall extend outside the perimeter of the golf cart while the golf cart is being operated.**

### **TRAFFIC RULES**

**The operator of the golf cart shall comply with all traffic rules and regulations adopted by the State of Indiana and the Town of Oxford which govern the operation of motor vehicles.**

### **SLOW MOVING VEHICLE SIGN**

**All golf carts must display on the back of the golf cart a "slow moving vehicle emblem" as described in Indiana Code § 9-21-9-3, or a red or amber flashing lamp as described in Indiana Code § 9-21-9-4, as those sections may be amended from time to time.**

*Golf carts may not be operated on the following national or state highways except to cross highways at intersections in a path ninety*

## **Firearms**

**It is unlawful to discharge any firearm, air gun, handgun, BB gun, crossbow, compound bow, any bow designed to shoot arrows, or any other weapon projecting lead or any other missile or projectile, within the Town of Oxford.**

## **Animals**

### **§Town Code 90.02 Limitation on Number**

**Not more than 2 dogs or 2 cats shall be allowed in the residence or on the property of the owner of a dog or cat.**

### **§Town Code 90.04 Dogs and Cats Creating Nuisance**

- A. No person shall own, keep, have in his or her possession, or harbor any dog, which, by frequent or habitual howling, yelping or barking, shall cause a nuisance by creating a serious annoyance or disturbance to any individual or to the neighborhood**
- B. Dogs are not allowed in the public park except on leash. The owner must pick up after their dog. No dog of the age that requires immunization shall be brought into the park unless the immunizations required of the dog by law, have been received by the dog and so indicated by tags attached to the collar of the dog.**

## **§Town Code 90.05 Rabies Inoculation Required**

**It shall be the duty of every owner of a dog harbored in the Town of Oxford to have the dog inoculated against rabies. The owner of the dog shall, at all times, keep in his or her possession evidence of rabies inoculation consisting of a certificate signed by the licensed veterinarian administering the vaccine.**

## **§Town Code 10.99 General Penalty**

**The minimum penalty for any ordinance violation is hereby increased to \$100.00 per violation, per day of violation.**

## **Vicious Animals**

### **§Town Code 90.20 Definitions**

#### **Vicious Animals**

- 1) Any dog or any other animal, domesticated or wild, or bird, that has a previously displayed belligerent behavior toward any person in a manner such as to threaten bodily injury to the person, whether the animal or bird was bred, used or trained for fighting or attack.**
- 2) Additionally, the following breeds commonly referred to as “pit bulls” are determined to be inherently vicious as the term vicious is defined herein, specifically:**
  - a) American Staffordshire Terrier;**

- b) American Pitt Bull Terrier and the Staffordshire bull terrier; or**
- c) Any mixed breed thereof.**

## **§Town Code 90.21 Unlawful to Possess**

**It shall be unlawful and a nuisance to possess, maintain or house within the limits of the Town of Oxford:**

- A. Any vicious animal; or**
- B. Cattle, calves, buffalo, horses, ponies, mules, donkeys, swine, sheep, goats or poultry.**

## **Zoning**

**Oxford's zoning rules are governed by the Benton County Zoning commission. All building permits are issued through that office, which is located in the Benton County Court House, in Fowler, Indiana. Before building, remodeling, installing fences or swimming pools, contact the Building Commissioner for proper rules and permits.**

## **Trash Pickup**

**Our trash pickup is each Monday. All totes need to be curbside by 6:00am. Only regular household waste is permitted and all trash must be bagged and inside the tote. Items excluded from trash pickup are brush and lawn clippings and hazardous waste. The driver does not get off the truck to pick up items not in the tote. Please remove totes from curb as soon as possible once trash has been picked up.**

**If you have a large item that you need to dispose of other than during the regular Spring or Fall Clean-up opportunities, you can do so by**

contacting the clerk's office and paying \$10.00 per item in advance. Please call the Clerk's office (765)385-2150 for additional information.

We have Special Trash Disposal service two times a year, generally, the first Saturday in May and the first Saturday in October. This service is designed to accommodate those items that are ordinarily larger than the items set out for regular pickups. A detailed letter is mailed before the Special Trash Disposal weekends that give clear instructions for this service.

### **Burning**

Benton County ordinance permits burning of only clean dry wood product. Burning is to be done in an enclosed container, during the daylight hours, extinguished at night, and if the fire becomes an objectionable nuisance, the fire must be extinguished.

The Town will supply barrels for burning, for a nominal charge, and will empty them for a small charge. Contact the Clerk's office to arrange this service.

### **Leaf Collection**

To aid in the disposal of leaves each fall, the Town provides a leaf vacuum service. Leaf collection usually begins Nov. 1<sup>st</sup>. Leaves should be raked to the edge of the street (not in the street). It is not necessary to call to let us know you have leaves. Don't mix leaves and limbs. Don't burn leaves on town streets or alleys.

### **Limb Disposal / Brush Chipping**

A new Brush Ordinance went into effect on 8/17/2015

Chipping is free for residents within town limits as long as the brush is properly laid out and takes less than 15 minutes. Residents who pay a contractor for tree trimming or removal are not eligible for free service. Large amounts of brush requiring more than 15 minutes will be charged.

Unmanageable piles will be removed by backhoe or dump truck and incur a charge. For more information, please stop at Clerk's Office  
\*\*Storm Damage will be picked up within a few days of incident and will be free of charge\*\*

### **Limb Dos**

- Do angle limbs next to the pavement with the cut-end first.

- Do leave limbs in large pieces. (Maximum diameter is 14" and max. length is 25'.)
- Do be patient. Leaves and limbs are collected by town employees on Fridays, weather permitting
- Do call first if you will be trimming a tree and are not sure how to cut or lay out the limbs (765-585-2551).

#### **Limb Don'ts**

- Don't stack or pile limbs.
- Don't cut limbs into many short pieces.
- It is generally not necessary to "limb" a tree.

#### **Recycling**

In order to help contain the costs associated with trash removal and disposal and to help in the problems associated with dwindling landfills, our Town strongly supports and recommends our recycling program. Recycling bins are located across from the Utilities Building at the corner of Wilson Street and Dan Patch Drive. Please follow the recycling regulations attached on the back page.

**The dumpster located by the recycling area is for use by the town maintenance employees only. Illegal dumping could result in a Fine of \$250.00 per Town Ordinance #2018-0115.**



# BENTON COUNTY VOLUNTARY RECYCLING REGULATIONS

1. Sort Items and Place in Marked Bins.
2. Leave Only Items Identified at Top of Bin.
3. Do Not Leave Any Item in Aisle.

## Bin 1 - Frosted Plastic Milk Jugs & Bottles



1. Deposit only frosted containers with 2 on bottom.
2. Rinse thoroughly before depositing.
3. Remove plastic caps and rings.

## Bin 2 - TWO-LITTER PLASTIC BOTTLES PET PLASTIC BOTTLES

1. Deposit only containers with a 1 on bottom.
2. Rinse thoroughly before depositing.
3. Remove plastic caps and rings.

## Bin 3 - 2 COLORED PLASTIC BOTTLES

1. Deposit only colored containers with 2 on bottom.
2. Rinse thoroughly before depositing.
3. Remove plastic caps and rings.

(No motor oil or anti-freeze containers)

Glass – clear, green or brown is no longer collected in Benton County. Fresh Thyme Market in Lafayette will accept all glass and also accepts #5 recyclables (yogurts, pill bottles etc.)

Electronics are accepted at Benton Co. Recycling in Fowler  
765-884-2080 ext. 3

## Bin 7 - FLATTENED CORRUGATED CARDBOARD



1. Deposit only corrugated cardboard boxboard or chipboard.
2. Flatten or break down boxes.
3. No wax coated boxes or wax paper inserts.

## Bin 8 - NEWSPAPERS



1. Clean newspapers only.
2. Place in grocery bags or tie in bundles.
3. Remove glossy advertising sections.

## Bin 9 - MAGAZINES & CATALOGS

1. No advertising supplements.

## Bin 10 - STEEL (TIN) CANS



1. Rinse and remove labels.
2. Flatten cans.

## Bin 11 - FOIL PANS & TRAYS

1. Rinse and remove food particles.

## Bin 12 - BEVERAGE CANS



1. Rinse thoroughly.
2. No aluminum foil or trays.

The above recycling preparations regulations were written by the processors of these recyclables.

Only items in this condition will be accepted by the manufacturers who are using recyclables in production. Please clip these regulations for ready reference and become a participant in the Benton County Recycling program with drop off sites at Boswell, Fowler and Oxford.